

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring DRM broadcast signals at alternative frequencies during reception of a DRM broadcast signal at a present frequency, said DRM broadcast signals including static data symbols during time slots and radio program data during time intervals, said time slots and said time intervals being arranged in a sequence, in which one time slot is followed by one time interval and vice versa, said method comprising:

receiving radio program data at a present frequency during a first time interval with a receiver gain of a present gain value;

switching to an alternative frequency during a first time slot,

wherein during said first time slot said receiver's gain settles to a second gain value;

switching to said present frequency during a second time interval;

receiving further radio program data at said present frequency during a second time interval with a receiver gain of said present gain value;

switching to said alternative frequency during a second time slot;

instantaneously switching the receiver's gain from said a-present gain value corresponding to said present frequency to a to said second gain value;

~~checking said broadcast signal at said alternative frequency during said second time slot, corresponding to an alternative frequency when the broadcast signal at said alternative frequency is checked,~~

~~whereby said second gain value is adapted to the supposed signal strength of the broadcast signal at said alternative frequency,~~

~~wherein both the broadcast signal received at said present frequency and the broadcast signal received at said alternative frequency are broadcast signals according to the DRM standard.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

determining whether the program transmitted via the broadcast signal at said alternative frequency is the same as the program transmitted via the broadcast signal at the present frequency.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

comparing the signal strength of the broadcast signal received at the alternative frequency to the signal strength of the broadcast signal received at the present frequency.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein

when the signal strength of the broadcast signal at the alternative frequency surpasses the signal strength of the signal at the present frequency by a predefined amount, and when the programs transmitted at both frequencies are identical, the received frequency is switched from the present frequency to the alternative frequency.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
correlating said broadcast signal received at said present frequency and said broadcast signal received at said alternative frequency.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the second gain value is set to a predefined constant.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the second gain value is determined by reducing the present gain value by a predefined constant.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The method according to claim 1, for monitoring broadcast signals at alternative frequencies during reception of a broadcast signal at a present frequency, comprising:~~

instantaneously switching a receiver's gain from a present gain value corresponding to said present frequency to a second gain value corresponding to an alternative frequency whenever the broadcast signal at said alternative frequency is checked, whereby said second gain value is adapted to the supposed signal strength of the broadcast signal at said alternative frequency;

wherein both the broadcast signal received at said present frequency and the broadcast signal received at said alternative frequency are broadcast signals according to the DRM standard and

wherein the second gain value is determined by iteratively reducing the present gain value, whereby in each step, the present gain value is reduced by a predefined constant.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
storing a corresponding gain value adapted to the signal strength of the broadcast signal at said alternative frequency for each set of alternative frequencies.

11. (Currently Amended) A receiver for receiving DRM broadcast signals including static data symbols during time slots and radio program data during time intervals, said time slots and said time intervals being arranged in a sequence, in which one time slot is followed by one time interval and vice versa, said receiver being configured:
to receive radio program data at a present frequency during a first time interval
with a receiver gain of a present gain value;
to switch to an alternative frequency during a first time slot,

wherein during said first time slot said receiver's gain settles to a second gain value;

to switch to said present frequency during a second time interval;

to receive further radio program data at said present frequency during a second time interval with a receiver gain of said present gain value;

to switch to said alternative frequency during a second time slot;

said receiver comprising:

a gain control unit,

wherein said gain control unit comprises:

gain switching means for instantaneously switching the receiver's gain from a present gain value ~~corresponding to a present frequency to a~~ to said second gain value ~~corresponding to an alternative frequency whenever a broadcast signal at said alternative frequency is checked;~~

~~whereby said second gain value is adapted to the supposed signal strength of the broadcast signal at said alternative frequency, and~~

~~wherein both the broadcast signal received at said present frequency and the broadcast signal received at said alternative frequency are broadcast signals according to the DRM standard.~~

12-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The receiver according to claim 11, further comprising:

comparator means adapted for comparing the signal strength of the broadcast signal received at the alternative frequency to the signal strength of the broadcast signal received at the present frequency.

17. (Previously Presented) The receiver according to claim 11, further comprising:

frequency switching means adapted for switching the received frequency from the present frequency to the alternative frequency when the signal strength of the broadcast signal at the alternative frequency surpasses the signal strength of the signal at the present frequency, and when the programs transmitted at both frequencies are identical.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The receiver according to claim 11, further comprising:

a correlator adapted for correlating said broadcast signal received at said present frequency and said broadcast signal received at said alternative frequency.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The receiver according to claim 11, further comprising:

storage means adapted for storing, for each of a set of alternative frequencies, a corresponding gain value adapted to the signal strength of the broadcast signal at said alternative frequency.

24. (Previously Presented) A program stored on a computer readable medium, for causing a computer, when said program is executed on a computer or digital signal processor, to perform the method as defined in claim 1.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, for monitoring broadcast signals at alternative frequencies during reception of a broadcast signal at a present frequency, comprising:

~~instantaneously switching the receiver's gain from a present gain value corresponding to said present frequency to a second gain value corresponding to an alternative frequency when the broadcast signal at said alternative frequency is checked;~~

~~whereby said second gain value is adapted to the supposed signal strength of the broadcast signal at said alternative frequency;~~

~~wherein both the broadcast signal received at said present frequency and the broadcast signal received at said alternative frequency are broadcast signals according to the DRM standard, and~~

wherein the second gain value is determined by iteratively modifying a
predetermined gain value.